

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06620 01 OF 02 111856Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7562
INFO AMCONSUL BREMEN
AMCONSUL STUTTGART
AMCONSUL DUSSELDORF
AMCONSUL FRANKFURT
AMCONSUL HAMBURG
AMCONSUL MUNICH
USMISSION USBERLIN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY PRETORIA
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

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USEEC ALSO FOR EMBASSY; USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, GW

SUBJECT: FRG CITIZEN'S INITIATIVES BEFORE THE ELECTIONS -

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PAGE 02 BONN 06620 01 OF 02 111856Z

NO GREEN PARTY YET

REF: HAMBURG 501

SUMMARY: FORMATION OF A "GREEN PARTY" IN THE FRG IS
REJECTED, BUT "GREEN LISTS" WILL CONTINUE TO CAMPAIGN
IN UPCOMING ELECTIONS. POLITICAL MUDSLINGING CON-

TINUES IN HAMBURG. DEMONSTRATIONS ARE PLANNED. END
SUMMARY.

1. THE FEDERAL ASSOCIATION OF CITIZENS INITIATIVES FOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION (BBU) HELD A CONGRESS ON "CITIZEN'S INITIATIVES BEFORE THE ELECTIONS" IN KASSEL ON APRIL 8 AND 9. OVER TWO HUNDRED BBU MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS ATTENDED THE CONGRESS WHICH HAD EXTENSIVE MEDIA COVERAGE. THE THREE CO-CHAIRMEN OF THE BBU, PETER WILLERS, ROLAND VOGT AND HANS-GUENTHER SCHUMACHER, MODERATED THE CONGRESS DISCUSSIONS AND KEPT THINGS WELL IN HAND.

2. THE DISCUSSIONS FOCUSED ON THE CURRENT "GREEN LIST" ECOLOGY CANDIDATES RUNNING IN LOCAL AND STATE ELECTIONS IN THE FRG. THE RECENT ELECTORAL SUCCESSES BY THE GREEN LISTS IN TWO LOCAL ELECTION DISTRICTS IN SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN HAD LED SOME BBU MEMBERS TO CALL FOR THE IMMEDIATE FORMATION OF A FORMAL NATION-WIDE GREEN PARTY IN THE FRG THAT WOULD UNIFY OR REPLACE THE GREEN LISTS, WHICH HAVE A GREAT DEAL OF LOCAL AUTONOMY. FRIEDHELM WEGNER OF THE BOTTROP CITIZENS INITIATIVE MADE TWO SEPARATE AND IMPASSIONED CALLS FOR THE IMMEDIATE FORMATION OF A GREEN PARTY. HE WAS QUASHED BY SCHUMACHER BOTH TIMES. THE CONSENSUS THAT EMERGED WAS THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR MORE GRASS ROOTS WORK AND THE ELEC- LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BONN 06620 01 OF 02 111856Z

TION OF CANDIDATES ON THE LOCAL AND STATE LEVELS BEFORE A MOVE TO A NATIONAL PARTY IS MADE.

3. IT BECAME CLEAR THAT THE ANTI-NUCLEAR POWER PLANT MOVEMENT, AND TO A MUCH SMALLER DEGREE THE ANTI-NEUTRON BOMB MOVEMENT, HAVE BECOME THE CENTRAL ISSUES IN THE BBU. URBAN PLANNING, WOMEN'S RIGHTS, HOMOSEXUAL RIGHTS AND ABORTION REMAIN ISSUES FOR PARTICULAR CITIZEN'S GROUPS. BUT THE ANTI-NUCLEAR ISSUE HAS UNITED VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE CITIZEN'S INITIATIVES GROUPS.

4. THERE WILL BE NO COMPROMISE BY THE BBU ON THE ANTI-ATOMIC ISSUE. THE BBU WANTS A NON-NUCLEAR SOCIETY. THE BBU IS ALSO INTERESTED IN GENERAL ECOLOGICAL ISSUES, ECONOMIC AND WORKING ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE DECENTRALIZATION OF ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL POWER, NON VIOLENT TACTICS, THIRD WORLD PROBLEMS AND DIS-ARMAMENT. ONGOING STUDY AND WORK GROUPS ARE ANALYZING THESE ISSUES, BUT NO FORMAL PLATFORM HAS EMERGED.

5. THE CONGRESS ALSO BEGAN TO WORK ON A "BEHAVIOUR

CODE (CODEX)" FOR GREEN LIST CANDIDATES ELECTED. THE CRUCIAL POINTS WOULD REQUIRE ANY "GREEN LISTER" TO REMAIN ACTIVE IN HIS GRASS ROOTS CITIZEN INITIATIVE GROUP AND TO HAVE AN INCOME EQUAL TO THE AVERAGE CI'S INCOME - I.E., ANY "SURPLUS" SALARY WOULD BE DONATED TO THE CAUSE. A PERIODIC ROTATION BETWEEN ELECTED OFFICE AND GRASS ROOTS WORK WAS SUGGESTED. NO FINAL DECISIONS WERE REACHED, BUT THE BBU'S CONCERN ABOUT CONTINUED CONTACT WITH THE GRASS ROOTS WILL REMAIN A

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PAGE 01 BONN 06620 02 OF 02 111925Z
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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 02 OF 02 BONN 06620

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CENTRAL FACTOR IN ANY GUIDELINES REACHED.

6. TWO ECOLOGY GROUPS HAVE DEVELOPED IN HAMBURG, THE
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PAGE 02 BONN 06620 02 OF 02 111925Z

GREEN LIST AND THE BUNTE (COLORFUL) LIST AND THERE WAS
A GREAT DEAL OF REGRET ABOUT THIS SPLIT IN THE MOVE-
MENT. IN A CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFFS, PETER WILLERS
REGRETTED THE SPLIT AND DOUBTED THAT A UNIFIED FRONT
CAPABLE OF GETTING OVER THE 5 PERCENT HURDLE COULD BE
REACHED BY THE JUNE 4 ELECTIONS. BOTH GROUPS INDULGED
IN A GREAT DEAL OF MUDSLINGING AND LEAFLETTING. THE
BUNTE LIST ACCUSED THE GREEN LIST OF HAVING NEONAZI
AND FASCIST PEOPLE AND THE GREEN LIST ACCUSED THE
BUNTE LIST OF BEING INFLUENCED BY SPLINTER COMMUNIST
GROUPS.

7. THE NEED FOR CONTACTS WITH LABOR UNIONS WAS EMPHA-
SIZED BY SPEAKERS, AND WORKER MEMBERS OF CITIZEN
INITIATIVE GROUPS WERE URGED TO RUN IN WORKS COUNCIL
ELECTIONS. SOME UNION MEMBERS HAVE ALREADY SUBMITTED
ANTI-NUCLEAR DRAFT RESOLUTIONS FOR THE DGB CONVENTION
IN MAY.

8. THE BBU PHILOSOPHY OF ACCEPTING SUPPORTERS OF ALL
POLITICAL VIEWPOINTS WAS REAFFIRMED, AND CONTACT WITH
OTHER GROUPS WAS ENCOURAGED. (A PENSIONERS' GROUP SENT
OBSERVERS TO THE CONGRESS AND TALKED ABOUT THE RECENT
PENSION REFORM.) THE BBU ALSO REAFFIRMED THE NEED TO
USE A VARIETY OF TACTICS, INCLUDING LAWSUITS DEMON-
STRATIONS AND SITE OCCUPATIONS IN ADDITION TO ELECTORAL
ACTIVITY.

9. A PASTORS' DEMONSTRATION WILL BE HELD ON ELECTION
DAY, JUNE 4, IN HAMBURG AND LOWER SAXONY. THE CONGRESS
DELEGATES WERE ASKED TO SUPPORT THIS. AUSTRALIAN ANTI-
NUCLEAR GROUPS HAVE SENT MESSAGES ABOUT A SHIP, THE
ACT-7, CARRYING YELLOWCAKE URANIUM FROM AUSTRALIA TO
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PAGE 03 BONN 06620 02 OF 02 111925Z

EUROPE. THE SHIP IS DUE TO ARRIVE IN EUROPE BETWEEN
APRIL 15 AND 20, AND WILL DOCK IN GREAT BRITAIN, BEL-
GIUM, AND HAMBURG, GERMANY. THE ANTI-NUCLEAR CITIZEN
INITIATIVES ARE PLANNING DEMONSTRATIONS TO PROTEST THE

UNLOADING OF THE YELLOWCAKE. THE DOCKWORKERS' UNIONS WILL BE ASKED TO SUPPORT THE ANTI-NUCLEAR MOVEMENT BY REFUSING TO UNLOAD THE SHIP. OTHER GROUPS MAY DEMONSTRATE AGAINST FRG-SOUTH AFRICAN NUCLEAR COOPERATION, BUT NO FIRM DATE OR PLACE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED.

10. THE AVERAGE BBU MEMBER IS DISAPPOINTED WITH THE NON-RESPONSIVENESS OF THE ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTIES AND TRADE UNIONS. SCHUMACHER AND OTHERS WERE CAREFUL TO AVOID ANY OPEN ANTAGONISMS BUT THE BBU'S DISAPPOINTMENT VERGING UPON DISGUST IS BECOMING EVIDENT.

11. EMBASSY COMMENT: THE BBU WANTS TO CONTINUE ITS GRASS ROOTS ORGANIZATIONAL EFFORTS, AND THE TOP LEADERSHIP WILL NOT FAVOR THE FORMATION OF A NATIONAL "GREEN PARTY" IN THE NEAR TERM. INTERNALLY, THE HAMBURG SPLIT WILL CONTINUE TO CONCERN PEOPLE, BUT IT IS UNLIKELY TO AFFECT ELECTIONS ELSEWHERE SINCE HAMBURG HAS ALWAYS BEEN CONSIDERED A UNIQUE SITUATION IN THE ECOLOGY MOVEMENT. THE ANTI-NUCLEAR MOVEMENT BECOMES MORE SOPHISTICATED DAY BY DAY. THE PROBLEM OF INTERNAL CONTROLS (PARA 5) WILL GAIN MORE INTEREST IN THE FUTURE. NO ALLIANCES OR BREAKS WITH THE ESTABLISHED POLITICAL PARTIES ARE LIKELY UNTIL NEXT YEAR AT THE VERY EARLIEST. THE BBU IS WORTH WATCHING AND FURTHER REPORTS WILL FOLLOW.

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